

Washington , D.C. - Congressman Sanford Bishop, a Member of the House Appropriations Committee announced that the fiscal year 2007 Agricultural Appropriations Bill contains more than \$6.6 million in research and conservation programs for Georgia 's 2nd Congressional District.

The funding includes: \$704,635 for Water Use Reduction in Dawson; \$586,215 for Water Resources Management in Tifton; \$603,409 for Pecan Scab Research in Byron; \$882,000 for research on agricultural water quality at the Georgia Soil and Water Commission and \$131,799 for Peanut Research in Dawson.

The Agriculture Appropriations Act for FY 2007 provides \$94.79 billion in mandatory and discretionary spending for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and other related agencies. This includes \$25.7 billion for the Commodity Credit Corporation, \$2.4 billion in rural development programs, \$1.1 billion for agricultural research and \$37.9 billion to fund food stamps. The Appropriations Bill is nearly \$7 billion small than last year's version, but is \$190 million over the Administration's request.

"This bill funds the crop support programs that are vital to our peanut and cotton farmers. Our agricultural tradition literally forms the backbone of South West Georgia and the Agricultural Appropriations Bill that sent out of committee today goes a long way towards ensuring its continued strength," said Congressman Bishop. "Not only are we expanding our crop and livestock production, but we are taking important steps to protect the environment, by conserving our precious natural resources. This is a bill that we can truly be proud of."